

Message Text

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43 41

ACTION NEA-07

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 INR-05 CIAE-00

PM-03 DODE-00 L-01 SCS-01 SCA-01 OPR-01 A-01 PER-01

SP-02 NEAE-00 SSO-00 EUR-08 USIE-00 FS-01 SY-02

INRE-00 /054 W

----- 013126

O 011540Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5062

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL STUTTGART IMMEDIATE

USCINCEUR IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 8334

LIMDIS

STUTTGART FOR ELG

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AEMR, AFSP

SUBJECT: BEIRUT STANDFAST WARNING DECLARATION

1. ALTHOUGH FORMATION OF NEW CABINET GIVES US SOME HOPE, SECURITY SITUATION OVER PAST TWO DAYS HAS DETERIORATED WITH DISTURBING EXPANSION OF AREA OF SHOOTING, BOMBING, ETC. AS PROSPECTS FOR IMPROVEMENT SITUATION UNCLEAR, I CONSIDER IT PRUDENT TO DECLARE STANDFAST-WARNING PHASE FOR BEIRUT TO REGULARIZE COMPLIANCE PROVISIONS E AND E PLAN AND MANUAL. WE HAVE TAKEN MOST OF STEPS ENVISIONED BY PHASE, INCLUDING DESTRUCTION NON-ESSENTIAL FILES AND PREPARATION FOR DISPATCH OF OTHERS TO ATHENS FOR SAFEKEEPING. WE ARE NOT CURRENTLY CONTEMPLATING EVACUATION BUT CONSIDER SITUATION WARRANTS OUR TAKING NUMBER CONTINGENCY MEASURES. IN THIS CONTEXT, REQUEST DEPARTMENT ATKE FOLLOWING ACTION TO PERMIT US MOVE
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QUICKLY IF NEED ARISES:

A. START DISCREET CONTINGENCY NEGOTIATIONS WITH PAN AMERICAN OR OTHER AIRLINES REGARDING CHARTERING OF SPECIAL PLANES FOR AIRLIFT OF DEPENDENTS AND NON-ESSENTIAL PERSONNEL AS WELL AS PRIVATE CITIZENS FROM BEIRUT TO SAFEHAVEN. AIRLINES SHOULD NOT RPT NOT ALERT AIRLINE REPRESENTATIVES BEIRUT AT THIS JUNCTURE. EMBASSY WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE AUTHORIZATION TO ENGAGE IF NECESSARY IN NEGOTIATIONS FOR AIRCRAFT WITH LOCAL PAN AMERICAN AND OTHER AIRLINE REPRESENTATIVES. AUTHORIZATION, HOWEVER, WOULD BE USED ONLY IF DEPARTMENT'S EFFORTS WOULD NOT BE SUFFICIENTLY FAST IN RAPIDLY DETERIORATING SITUATION.

B. SIMILAR ACTION IS ALSO REQUESTED WITH REGARD TO CHARTERING OF SHIPS FOR USE SHOULD PASSAGE TO THE AIRPORT BE BLOCKED BY FIGHTING WHICH IS LIKELY POSSIBILITY. AGAIN, DISCREET NEGOTIATIONS SHOULD BE CONDUCTED WITH AMERICAN EXPORT LINES REPRESENTATIVE AND OTHER COMPANIES WITH EMBASSY BEING GIVEN AUTHORITY, IF NEEDED, DO SAME AT LOCAL LEVEL. THE LATTER SHOULD INCLUDE AUTHORITY TO SIGN CONTRACTS

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IF NEEDED, WITH COMPANY REPRESENTATIVES.

C. DESIGNATE NOW SAFEHAVEN POST OR POSTS FOR USE BY BEIRUT.

D. PROVIDE BEIRUT WITH NECESSARY FISCAL DATA FOR EMERGENCY LOANS, TRANSPORTATION, CHARTERING OF AIRCRAFT,ETC. THIS WOULD BE FOR BOTH STATE AND USIA.

E. AUTHORIZE SCOLA PAYMENTS. WE HAVE ALREADY HAD TO MOVE FOUR FAMILIES FROM HIGH RISK AREAS TO HOTELS. IF SITUATION CONTINUES,WE WILL HAVE TO MOVE MORE.

F. UNTIL SITUATION CLARIFIES, DEPARTMENT SHOULD NOT PERMIT DEPENDENTS OF NEWLY ASSIGNED PERSONNEL TO COME TO BEIRUT. THREE FAMILIES HAVE ALREADY BEEN HELD AT EUROPEAN POSTS WITH PRINCIPALS PROCEEDING TO BEIRUT, I.E., STATE PERSONNEL CLAIR GEORGE IN LONDON, ROBERT WATERMAN IN ROME, AND USIS PERSONNEL GREGORY MOFFITT IN LONDON. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO ISSUE APPROPRIATE ORDERS TO PERMIT PAYMENT OF PER DIEM TO THESE FAMILIES AND OTHERS IN SIMILAR CIRCUMSTANCES.

G. IF CURRENT SECURITY SITUATION CONTINUES, WE MAY WISH TO SUGGEST AMERICANS WHO DO NOT HAVE ESSENTIAL BUSINESS HERE TO LEAVE BY REGULAR COMMERCIAL MEANS. IN SUCH A CASE, WE WOULD RECOMMEND THAT DEPENDENTS OF OFFICIAL PERSONNEL WHO WISH TO LEAVE BE PERMITTED TO DO SO. WE THEREFORE, REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO ISSUE EVACUATION ORDERS FOR SUCH VOLUNTARY EVACUEES FOR TRAVEL TO DESIGNATED SAFEHAVEN AND PER DIEM WHILE THERE.

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2. CURRENT REPORT OFPOTENTIAL EVACUEES WILL BE SUBMITTED TELEGRAPHICALLY. HOWEVER, INFORMATION PRESENTLY ON FILE IN WASHINGTON AND STUTTGART REMAINS BASICALLY CORRECT FOR ALL CATEGORIES.

GODLEY

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NNN

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